- Farm to School Grants
- FF&VP Selection Process for SY 2012-2013 Update
- **REMINDER** Deadline for Responding to FF&VP Proposed Rule
- Updated 2011-12 Accountability MOA
- Rachel Ray's Yum-o! Healthy School Meal Contest
- **REMINDER** School Grants for Healthy Kids
- Vacancy Announcement Cabarrus County CND
- School Nutrition Employee Week
- 2012 Seamless Summer Option Training
- Weekly Q&A Formulated Grain Products
- Mark Your Calendar

Farm to School Grants

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA) established a Farm to School program in order to assist eligible entities, through grants and technical assistance, in implementing farm to school programs that improve access to local foods in eligible schools. To fulfill the farm to school mandate in the HHFKA, effective October 1, 2012, \$5 million will be provided to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) on an annual basis to support grants, technical assistance, and the Federal administrative costs related to USDA's farm to school program.

For contacts information, additional details about the Farm to School program or if you are interested in apply for a grant please review the program summary sheet and or you may visit the USDA website at: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/f2s/.

= farm to school.pdf

FF&VP Selection Process for SY 2012-2013 Update

The selection process is well underway for NC's elementary schools that will be chosen to participate in the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FF&VP) for SY 2012-2013. The North Carolina State Board of Education will "approve" the school selections at their **June 2012** meeting *instead* of their May 2012 meeting as originally scheduled. As a result, schools that applied will be notified in writing if they were selected, or not, by mid-June 2012 instead of mid-May 2012. If your district had a school(s) to apply, thank you for making a note of this and sharing the update with school administrators and others.

If anyone has any concerns regarding the schedule change, please e-mail Zoe McKay-Tucker at zoe.mckaytucker@dpi.nc.gov for assistance.

REMINDER Deadline for Responding to FF&VP Proposed Rule

For interested SFAs, the USDA posted the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FF&VP) proposed rule on Friday, February 24, 2012. (This announcement was included in the Child Nutrition Weekly Update on February 24, 2012.) The Proposed Rule establishes basic requirements for the operation of the FF&VP. Even though the deadline is just around the corner, there's still time to respond. As a reminder, comments on this proposed rule must be submitted to the USDA Food and Nutrition Service on or before **April 24**, **2012**. The quickest way to submit comments (to be received by the deadline) is via the Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov (simply follow the online instructions). All comments submitted will be included in the record and will be subject to public disclosure.



Updated 2011-12 Accountability MOA

The list of Testing Coordinators for that accompanies the 2011-12 Accountability MOA has been updated. The revised list is attached and should replace any previously distributed Accountability MOAs. Also note the name changed for The 'Downtown Middle School' (34C000); it has changed to 'The STEAM Academy of Winston-Salem'.

If the contact information is incorrect for your SFA please contact Faye Atkinson with NCDPI Accountability Services at 919.807.3803. If you have other questions regarding the MOA or need assistance please contact your regional consultant.



Rachel Ray's Yum-o! Healthy School Meal Contest

Presented by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, School Nutrition Association and the Yum-o organization!

DEADLINE: June 15, 2012

CALLING ALL SCHOOL NUTRITION PROFESSIONALS! The Alliance for a Healthier Generation is searching for your innovative, delicious, healthy school lunches. We know you work hard every day to put

together healthy and delicious school meals for your students. So send in your best healthy tray – including meat/meat alternative, bread/grain, vegetables and fruit – and get the chance to win a trip to New York City to watch a taping of the Rachael Ray show and to be featured in School Nutrition Magazine.

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation, the School Nutrition Association and Rachael Ray's *Yum-o!* organization are a few of your biggest supporters and are joining efforts to shine the spotlight on creative meals from school nutrition professionals like you all across the country.

Be creative and give us your best. This is no time to be shy. Meals will be judged on nutrition, appeal to students, ease of replication in schools and presentation.

All submissions must be on the Alliance for a Healthier Generation website, <u>www.healthiergeneration.org</u> by is **June 15**, **2012**.

Michelle Owens

Alliance for a Healthier Generation
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www.HealthierGeneration.org

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation:

- Supports more than 14,000 schools and the lives of more than 9 million students through its Healthy Schools Program
- Activates more than 2.5 million teens and tweens to commit to eat better, move more and serve as leaders to their peers.
- Facilitated an 88% reduction in beverage calories shipped to schools between 2004 and 2009 through a groundbreaking agreement with the beverage industry.

A flyer promoting this contest is attached for your convenience.



REMINDER School Grants for Healthy Kids

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 5, 2012

Through partners such as Kellogg's and the Walmart Foundation, Action for Healthy Kids is pleased to release its School Grants for Healthy Kids opportunities for the 2012-2013 school year. Over 500 schools will be awarded funds that will range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 (average \$2,000) with significant in-kind contributions from Action for Healthy Kids in the form of people, programs, and school nutrition expertise.

Several grants are being offered, each with a specific area of focus. You may select multiple program areas, but the average grant size will remain at \$2,000. We encourage you to please take a moment apply.

For more information and to apply visit:

www.actionforhealthykids.org/upcoming-events/grant-opportunities/school-grantsforhealthy.html



Vacancy Announcement

Cabarrus County Schools is in search of a Child Nutrition Director II. Please review the attached vacancy announcement for more details.



School Nutrition Employee Week - May 7-11, 2012



May 7 – 11, 2012 is School Nutrition Employee Week. This is a great opportunity to recognize and celebrate the people that make the school meals programs a success. The School Nutrition Association has provided information and resources for recognizing school nutrition employees at:

http://www.schoolnutrition.org/Level2 SNEW2012.aspx?id=16922.

2012 Seamless Summer Option Training

NCDPI Child Nutrition Services is conducting several webinar trainings for NC School Food Authorities (SFA) that **anticipate** participating in the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for the summer of 2012. Even if a SFA has attended a previous SSO training, the 2012 SSO training is **required** as well. Janice Ezzell, Training Coordinator for Child Nutrition Services, will be conducting the training. For your convenience, the SSO training is being offered through "GoToMeeting" webinar format. All that is needed to participate is a completed registration (in advance), a phone line, and a computer with internet access. Once registered, participants will be provided with the phone number and the website and login information to participate in the training. A total of six (6) GoToMeetings have been scheduled. Each webinar will be conducted using the same agenda and PowerPoint presentation. The remaining dates and times are as follows:

> Tuesday, April 24, 2012 9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. Thursday, May 3, 2012 2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P. M.

If you anticipate applying to participate in the SSO for the summer of 2012, a Child Nutrition

Administrator must plan to participate in one of the required training webinars. Other Child Nutrition Staff and School Administrators may also participate in the training if they choose. The webinars are limited to 25 phone lines including the presenter. However, if your phone has a "speakerphone" with a mute option, multiple people can participate from one phone line providing the computer screen is visible to all.

Please complete the electronic registration form by going to the link below and selecting the webinar you wish to participate in:

https://onece.ncsu.edu/search/publicCourseSearch.do?method=searchPAOnly&programAre aId=54369&showInternal=true

Once you have registered, Ashley Schwed will send you a confirmation with the webinar link and phone number to participate. If you have questions after you submit your registration form, please contact Ashley at 919-515-8185 or at ashley_schwed@ncsu.edu

If you have general questions about the training, please contact Janice Ezzell at 910-833-6750 or via email at Janice.ezzell@dpi.nc.gov and she will respond to your inquiry.

The NCDPI appreciates every School Food Authority's interest in feeding students during the summer months. It is a great service to every community!

Weekly Q&A - Formulated Grain Products

QUESTION

What is a formulated grain product and how will it credit towards the meal pattern in School Year 2012-13?

ANSWER

Formulated grain products are specific products that are manufactured, individually wrapped products that bear a label that states: "This product conforms to U.S.D.A Child Nutrition Program specifications. For breakfast, it meets the requirements for fruit/vegetable/juice and one bread/bread alternate." If the product does not bear this legend, it is not a formulated grain-fruit product. Products that were formerly authorized to bear the formulated grain-fruit statement and meet the Child Nutrition Program requirement for grains may continue to be used for this purpose; however, these formulated grain-fruit products may not be used to contribute fruit beginning July 1, 2012. This change does not affect the crediting of traditional grain-fruit bars listed in the Food Buying Guide, Exhibit A of the Grains/Breads instruction.

Reference: USDA Memorandum SP 26-2012

Mark Your Calendar

May 10 (Thursday)	Monthly Claim for Reimbursement Due
May 15 (Tuesday) Fresh	h Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Due
May 28	Memorial Day (Holiday – State offices closed)
May 7-11	School Nutrition Employee Week
June 10 (Tuesday)	Monthly Claim for Reimbursement Due
June 15Deadlin	ne for Submission of 2012-13 Agreement Renewal
June 20-22	NC School Nutrition Association Conference

TRAINING

May 3 (2:00 pm – 3:00 pm) Seamless Summer Option May 14 NC Procurement Alliance Member Meeting/Bid Opening

^{**} REMEMBER – Anytime the 10th falls on a weekend the actual due date for the claim for reimbursement is the next business day which is usually Monday. In the event that the following Monday is a holiday then the due date moves to the next business day. With that said, the CN Technology system is programmed to flag any reimbursement submitted after the 10th with the "10 day" error message (Error Code 1401). The NCDPI Child Nutrition section and the Claims section are fully aware of this and the Claims department will automatically override that error message for any claims submitted in this time period. NOTE: This also applies to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program for which the claim for reimbursement is due on the 15th of each month.